

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Flexer and Rep. Blumenthal, Vice-Chairs Sen. Slap and Rep. Morin-Bello, Ranking Members Sen. Sampson and Rep. Mastrofrancesco, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee:

CT Voters have spoken not once, but twice, on referenda to move Connecticut into the 21st century on voting rights. We cannot continue to wage in the company of Alabama, Mississippi, and New Hampshire in restricting access to the ballot. The legislature needs to implement at least 2 weeks of early voting, including early morning, evenings, and multiple weekends. Early voting should apply to all elections—general, special, municipal, and referenda and guarantee fair access to all voters.

The high voter turnout during the Covid pandemic—with fewer than 1% of ballots rejected—demonstrates that Connecticut voters want and can handle early voting.

Connecticut voters want choice and the legislature must implement (and fund) new and expanded voting options for 2023 and beyond.

Yours truly,

Leslie P. Blank
597 Westport Avenue
Unit A215
Norwalk, CT 06851
(203) 939-1183